

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KINSHA 00566 211425Z

53

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

RSC-01 /023 W

----- 109274

O 211415Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0961

UNCLAS KINSHASA 0566

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (DIGGS, CHARLES C.)

SUBJ: CODEL DIGGS

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO PRESIDENT FORD

FROM CONGRESSMAN DIGGS

MR. PRESIDENT,

I AM IN ATTENDANCE AT THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN AND AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES IN KINSHASA, ZAIRE, SPONSORED BY THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE, BUT FINANCED BY THE FORD AND CARNEGIE FOUNDATIONS. THE AMERICAN DELEGATION CONSISTS OF: REPS. BIESTER (R-PA), ANDERSON (R-ILL), ERLNBORN (R-ILL), BURKE (R-FLA), CONTE (R-MASS), YOUNG (D-GA), COLLINS (D-ILL), WHALEN (R-OHIO), SCHROEDER (D-COLO), PREYER (D-N.CAR), AND MYSELF.

THIS IS THE LARGEST DELEGATION OF U.S. CONGRESSMEN EVER TO BE IN AN AFRICAN COUNTRY AT THE SAME TIME.

THE AFRICAN DELEGATION CONSISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM 18 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING SEVERAL FOREIGN MINISTERS. THE CONFERENCE WAS OPENED BY PRESIDENT MOBUTU WHO, AFTER EXPRESSING SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR THE U.S. AIRLIFT IN 1960 DURING THE CIVIL WAR AND OTHER U.S. SUPPORT, POINTEDLY CRITICIZED YOUR APPOINTMENT OF NATHANIEL DAVIS AS ASSISTANT

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KINSHA 00566 211425Z

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AFRICA.

HIS REFERENCE TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY-DESIGNATE'S ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN CHILE DURING THE ALLENDE REGIME CONFIRMS THE RAPIDLY-GROWING DISMAY IN AFRICAN CIRCLES REGARDING THIS APPOINTMENT. AFRICAN SUPPORTERS IN THE U.S., INCLUDING THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS, ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH THIS CONCERN. MY CONCURRENCE IN THIS VIEW IS REINFORCED BY THE KNOWLEDGE THAT MR. DAVIS, WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR RETIREMENT ON OR ABOUT THE MONTH OF APRIL. COMING BEHIND THE ABORTED TENURE OF DONALD EASUM, SOPHISTICATED SPECULATION IS THAT AFRICA CONTINUES TO BE OF MINIMAL PRIORITY FOR THE U.S. AND THAT AF BUREAU WILL BECOME THE DUMPING GROUND FOR RETIREES AND OTHER DIFFICULT CANDIDATES TO ASSIGN.

IN ANY EVENT, IT IS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT DR. DAVIS' EFFECTIVENESS IN DEALING WITH AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND THEIR SUPPORTERS WOULD BE SERIOUSLY HAMPERED BY HIS PAST BACKGROUND IN CHILE. FOR SOMEONE TO ASSUME THIS POSITION WITH THESE HANDICAPS UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, WOULD BE ILL-ADVISED. BUT, TO INSIST UPON SUCH AN APPOINTMENT DURING THIS CRITICAL PERIOD OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE AND THE CURRENT POLITICAL UPHEAVALS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IS PURE FOLLY.

RESPECTFULLY URGE THAT YOU WITHDRAW MR. DAVIS' APPOINTMENT.

CHARLES C. DIGGS, JR.
CHAIRMAN,
HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA

HINTON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KINSHA00566
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750022-0660
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750134/aaaabdzo.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by BrownAM>; APPROVED <18 FEB 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL DIGGS DEPT PLEASE PASS TO PRESIDENT FORD
TAGS: OREP, (DIGGS, CHARLES C)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006